

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 NSC-05
SS-15 /053 W

-----033444 261927Z /62

P 261651Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4891

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AU, UK, PL

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM SERVICES TO VIENNA AND BEYOND

REF: STATE 012240

1. EMBASSY HAS INITIATED DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA REGARDING
PAN AM'S REQUEST TO SERVE VIENNA BEGINNING MARCH 3,
AND AT MFA REQUEST FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH NOTE BASED ON
REFTEL TALKING POINTS. MFA AND AUSTRIAN CIVIL AIR
AUTHORITY ARE PRESENTLY STUDYING OUR NOTE.

2. PRIOR TO RECEIPT REFTEL, LOCAL PAN AM OFFICE HAD
SENT LETTER TO AUSTRIAN CIVIL AIR AUTHORITY ANNOUNCING
INTENTION TO OPEN SAN FRANCISCO-LONDON-VIENNA-WARSAW
SERVICE MARCH 3. CIVAIR AUTHORITY TURNED THIS DOWN ON
JAN. 23 ON GROUNDS THAT THE MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION
RESULTING FROM MARCH 1975 TALKS IN WASHINGTON REQUIRES
US TO OFFICIALLY NOTIFY GOA OF ANY REQUESTED CHANGE IN
SERVICE OR EQUIPMENT IN ORDER TO PERMIT CONSULTATIONS,
IF DESIRED. WE HAVE POINTED OUT THAT USG AGREEMENT
IN 1975 TO GIVE AT LEAST 60 DAY ADVANCE NOTICE WAS
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LIMITED TO SITUATION WHERE TWA SOUGHT TO SERVE VIENNA
VIA POINTS OTHER THAN GENEVA AND WAS NOT RELEVANT
TO PRESENT CASE.

3. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET ELICITED ANY
OFFICIAL REACTION TO OUR REQUEST, INFORMAL CONTACTS
AND REPORTS CONFIRM OUR BELIEF THAT INITIAL REJECTION

OF PAA REQUEST AND GROUNDS GIVEN ARE NOT THE REAL ISSUE. IN ANY EVENT OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION HAS NOW OCCURRED THROUGH OUR NOTE. MORE IMPORTANT POINTS AT ISSUE ARE FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS, CHANGE OF GUAGE REQUEST, AND, ESPECIALLY, USE OF LONDON, WHICH WOULD COMPETE WITH PRIME AUA ROUTE. WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP FEEL FOR POSSIBLE GOA REACTION TO REQUEST FOR BEYOND RIGHTS TO WARSAW. AUA AND LOT BOTH PROVIDE DAILY VIENNA-WARSAW SERVICE, BUT MENTION TO DATE OF WARSAW RIGHTS HAS NOT RESULTED IN IMMEDIATE STIFFENING THAT LONDON PRODUCES.

4. BOTH PAA AND TWA REPS HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH EMBASSY. PAA IS QUITE CONCERNED AT PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED WHEN TWA AGREED TO GIVE UP 5TH FREEDOM RIGHTS ON VIENNA SERVICE TWO YEARS AGO, BUT RECOGNIZES THAT ONE-SIDED USE OF ROUTE RIGHTS IN BILATERAL AGREEMENT AND OVERALL EVOLUTION OF NATIONAL POSITIONS ON THIS ISSUE LEAVE US WITH LITTLE BARGAINING LEVERAGE. IN SHORT, THEY KNOW THAT A DEAL MUST BE STRUCK AND SEEM QUITE INCLINED TO BE FLEXIBLE. WOLF

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